

# CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS, 13TH WARD NEWS

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## Meet Our New 13th Ward Council Member, Linea Palmisano

Hello! My name is Linea Palmisano. Last November, I was elected to serve as the 13th Ward's representative to the Minneapolis City Council. I have lived in the ward (both Linden Hills and Lynnhurst) for 15 years, and I am thrilled and humbled to represent my neighbors in the 13th Ward.

I was sworn into office on Monday, January 6, and the last several weeks have been a whirlwind: learning the ins and outs of City Council Meetings, getting to know my coworkers and city staff, and digging deep into the issues I've been talking to folks about on the campaign trail for the last year. But I've never had a job I've loved as much as this, and I am honored every day to work on your behalf.

For those of you I haven't gotten to know yet, let me introduce myself: I have a long history of involvement in our community, having served as board chair of my neighborhood council, assistant track coach at Southwest High School, and a member of my local farmers market board. I also founded NAVIGATE, an immigrant college access program.

Outside of community activism, my professional experiences include 15 years of private sector experience in roles with IBM

Global Services, UnitedHealth Group, and assisting a local small business in its first year of establishment on West 44th Street.

These varied experiences in our community have helped me understand what it means to create sustainable opportunities and promote a quality of life that works for all of us. +I seek to partner my professional and community engagement experiences to continue the strong legacy of leadership of my predecessor, Mayor Betsy Hodges.

It is essential that residents of the 13th Ward are involved and engaged in citywide issues, and I will advocate for stronger and more transparent communications between residents, businesses, and the city. Over the past year, I have spent time in every neighborhood of our com-



*Council Member Linea Palmisano*

munity listening to residents to understand the issues that are important to them, including property taxes, our environment, development and density, safety, and a balanced budget.

I am a graduate of the University of Notre Dame (Bachelor of Science), the University of Minnesota (MBA—Strategy and Entrepreneurship), and St. Thomas (Certificate Program for Non-Profit Leadership). I live with my partner, Matthew, and two year-old son, Charlie.



*Me and my aides (Ken and Emily) on Inauguration Day, Jan. 6, 2014*

### **Emily Ziring, Senior Policy Aide**

Emily recently moved to Minneapolis from Chicago, where she served as the Energy Manager for

## **Meet the 13th Ward Staff**

the Chicago Transit Authority. Now a Fulton resident, she is excited to be involved in the 13th Ward as both a Council staffer and a neighbor, and looks forward to working on active transportation and sustainability issues in the city. Emily holds a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a focus on transportation and environmental planning. She lives with her husband, two children (a Lake Harriet first grader and a soon-

to-be Kindergartener), and two dogs.

### **Ken Dahler, Policy Aide**

Ken has spent the last couple years working for various local, state and national campaigns as both a community organizer and a volunteer door knocker and phone caller. Prior to that, he worked for over 12 years in the grocery industry, gaining valuable customer service and management experience. Ken has just moved into the Fulton Neighborhood.

## **Council Member Palmisano's Committee Appointments**

I serve on the following committees and boards:

- Audit (Chair)
- Transportation & Public Works (Vice-Chair)
- Public Safety, Civil Rights & Emergency Management
- Ways & Means
- Airport Working Group
- Youth Coordinating Board
- Southwest LRT Community Works Steering Committee

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- The City of Minneapolis has put [winter parking restrictions](#) in place as of 2/23/14. Until further notice, DO NOT PARK on the even side of non-snow emergency routes. Keep up with [snow emergencies](#) via phone, text, email, Facebook, Twitter, and a mobile app.
- City Hall offers free building tours the third Wednesday of every month at noon. It's a beautiful building with quite a history. (Meet at the Father of Waters statue near the 4th Street entrance.)
- The City of Minneapolis has an Anti-Idling Vehicle Ordinance. Exhaust from an idling car or truck carries a higher load of pollutants than a moving vehicle, so reducing unnecessary idling is one easy way we can all do something to improve air quality.
- Downtown commuters: You can get discount parking if you carpool! [Commuter Connection](#) currently partners with 19 parking facilities throughout downtown that offer discounted parking.

## A Look at 2014

As I dive into my committee assignments, I have a number of priorities for the year ahead:

- **Teardowns:** Establish focus groups to discuss the problems surrounding new infill housing within the 13th Ward and gather suggestions to improve the development process and outcomes. (Please contact [Emily.Ziring@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Emily.Ziring@minneapolismn.gov) if you would like to participate.)
- **Sustainability:** Work to determine how to expand the collection of organics (compostable materials) city-wide, and investigate solutions to airport noise pollution.
- **Connectivity:** Facilitate a dialogue between the ward, the Metropolitan Council, and our state representatives with the goal of improving existing transit services and interconnectivity between all active transportation modes—bus, LRT, biking and walking.



## City Goals

In early February, Mayor Hodges and the new City Council got together for a 2-day retreat to outline our goals and our vision for the City of Minneapolis. The resulting plan will be our road map for the next 4 years.

As it comes together, we'd love input from the constituents of the 13th Ward.

See the plan, and find out how to provide input (either online or in person at our public hearing) [here](#).

The draft will be open for public comment until March 14. After revisions, the final draft will be considered by the full City Council on March 26.

## Welcome to the City!

The Minneapolis Police Department has recently seen 2 big staff changes in the [5th precinct](#) (which includes all of the 13th ward).

**Inspector Todd Loining** took over command of the precinct on February 1st. He has been with the department for 21 years.

**Jennifer Weisanen** is our new Crime Prevention Specialist. She's been out and about at community meetings and block club events.

## In the News:

### 13th Ward, Minneapolis and Minnesota

[Star Tribune: Death comes as officials look to make streets safer for pedestrians](#)

[Finance & Commerce: Ultimatum issued to Southwest LRT project](#)

[MinnPost: Get to know Minneapolis' new City Council members](#)

[MinnPost: Moving to a greener urban area is associated with improved mental health, study finds](#)

[SW Journal: Violent crime, burglaries on the rise in Southwest in 2013](#)

[Pioneer Press: Minnesota legislators pledge boost in minimum wage](#)

[MPR: Enviro issues on tap at Capitol: Recycling, pollinators, plastic soap beads](#)

## Contact Us

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### 13TH WARD NEIGHBORHOODS

- [West Calhoun](#)
- [Armatage](#)
- [Linden Hills](#)
- [Kenny](#)
- [Fulton](#)
- [Lynnhurst](#)
- [East Harriet](#)



## SPOTLIGHT ON...

### Help shape our city: Apply for openings on Minneapolis boards and commissions!

Applications are now being accepted for a number of open board and commission positions that the City Council and Mayor will fill this spring. Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City.

There are more than 40 open positions on six City boards and commissions. Applications will be reviewed beginning April 25, 2014, but the positions are open until filled. Visit the City's website for a [full list of appointment opportunities](#) and position descriptions.

## Keep in Touch with Us

Our plan is to put this newsletter together bi-monthly. Let us know what you'd like to see in it!

Additionally, where can we meet you in the community? Since inauguration, my staff and/or I have been to neighborhood organization meetings, business meetings, community events and the homes of constituents. As we work on planning regular community meet-ups, let us know your thoughts about when and where we can see you!

## Smart Phone Apps You Should Be Using

311



Want to report a pothole, broken streetlight, or parking meter while on the go? The new Minneapolis 311 app uses GPS to identify your location and also allows you to snap a photo to add to your service request. Reports are automatically sent to the City's 311 system and routed to city departments for resolution. You'll also be able to follow your issue from the time it is reported until it is resolved.

TC NextBus



Want to take the bus but hate waiting in the cold? Use this location-based application that identifies Metro Transit bus stops with next bus predictions. Location can be determined by location services, or by your own map navigation. View routes and save your favorite stops.